

THE PRINCIPAL
A C T S
OF THE
General Assembly
OF THE
C H U R C H
OF
SCOTLAND,

Conveen'd at *Edinburgh* the 8. Day of *May*, 1735.

Collected and Extracted from the Records, by the Clerk thereof.



EDINBURGH:

Printed by Mr. JAMES DAVIDSON and ROBERT
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THE NATIONAL

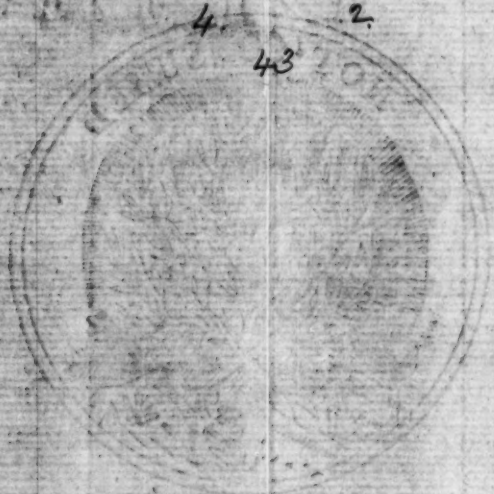
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THE PRINCIPAL

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A C T S

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

CHURCH

OF
SCOTLAND;

Begun at *Edinburgh*, upon *Thursday* the 8th
Day of *May*, 1735, and concluded the
20th Day of the same Month and Year.

*The King's Commission to William Marquis
of Lothian, produced and ordered to be
recorded.*

At *Edinburgh*, 8th *May*, 1735, Sess. i.



HE General Assembly of this National Church
being convened and constituted, there was
produced to them by the Most Honourable
William Marquis of Lothian, His Majesty's
Commission, sealed with the Seal appoint-
ed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and
used in *Scotland*, in Place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*,
making and constituting him his Majesty's High Commis-
sioner and Representative in this Assembly, of the same
Tenor with the Commissions granted to his Lordship in the
Years 1732, 1733 and 1734; and it being publickly read
with all due Honour and Respect, was appointed to be
recorded in the Books of Assembly.

*The KING's Most Gracious Letter to the
General Assembly, presented to them by his
Majesty's Commissioner, May 8th, 1735,
Sess. 1.*

G E O R G E R.



RIGHT Reverend and Well-beloved, We greet you well. Your dutiful Behaviour, and prudent Conduct in your former Assemblies, and the many Proofs you have given of your steady Zeal and Affection for Our Person and Government, and for Our Royal Family, leave Us no Room to doubt, but that you will continue to manifest the same good Dispositions and Intentions in your present Meeting, which We therefore most willingly approve and countenance with Our Royal Authority.

The great and desirable Ends for which you are now convened, being chiefly to consider of the most effectual Means of promoting true Religion and Virtue, preventing the Growth of Popery, and suppressing Vice and Immorality, you will constantly meet with Our Countenance and Encouragement, and may depend upon Our Concurrence in whatever may best conduce thereto; and We take this Occasion to renew the Assurances We have formerly given you of Our unalterable Resolution to maintain inviolable, the Rights and Privileges of the Church of *Scotland*, as by Law established.

As you must be sensible of the great Importance of a good Agreement and Unanimity among yourselves, to the Success of your Councils and Resolutions, and that nothing can more successfully contribute to the attaining the good Ends abovementioned; We are fully persuaded, your Debates will be conducted with that Moderation, and Brotherly Love and Charity, which become so venerable a Body.

The Experience We have had of the Capacity and Abilities, and Zeal for Our Service, of Our Right Trusty and entirely beloved Cousin, *William Marquis of Lothian*, and Our Knowledge of his Affection and Concern for the Church of *Scotland*, which We, assure Ourselves, will render him equally acceptable to you, have induc'd Us to
renew

General Assembly, 1735.

renew Our Choice of him to represent Our Royal Person; and as we entirely rely upon his Capacity, Diligence and Application, in the Discharge of so great a Trust, We have the same Dependance that you will on your Part, give him all the Assistance in your Power, towards the bringing of this your Meeting to a happy Conclusion: And so We bid you Farewell. Given at Our Court at St. James's, the 28th Day of April, 1735, in the Eighth Year of our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

HOLIES NEWCASTLE

Directed thus;
To the Right Reverend and
Well-beloved, The Moderator,
Ministers and Elders of the
GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the
Church of Scotland.

III.

*The General Assembly's Answer to the King's
most Gracious Letter.*

Edinburgh, May 10th, 1735, Sess. 3.

May it please your Majesty,

THE General Assembly of this Church, have, with great Satisfaction, received Your Majesty's Gracious Letter, wherein You are pleased favourably to take Notice of the dutiful and prudent Conduct of our former Meetings, and the Proofs we have given of our steady Zeal and Affection for your Majesty's Person and Government, and for your Royal Family; This lays us under the strongest Obligations, agreeably to our Duty and Interest, continually to manifest the same good Dispositions and Intentions in our present Meeting, which with Pleasure we observe, Your Majesty, in Your great Goodness, most willingly approves and countenances with Your Royal Authority.

Your Majesty's assuring us of your Countenance, Encouragement and Concurrence to what may best conduce

to the promoting true Religion and Virtue, the preventing the Growth of Popery, and the suppressing of Vice and Immorality, the great Ends of our Meeting, encourages us to take these Matters under our most serious Consideration, whereby we may at once serve the Interests of Christ's Kingdom, and promote the true Happiness of your Majesty's Subjects. Your Majesty is further graciously pleased to give us renewed Assurances of Your unalterable Resolution to maintain inviolable the Rights and Privileges of the Church of Scotland, as by Law established, which affords us great Joy, and on which we humbly rely with entire Confidence.

That we may happily attain the good Ends mentioned in Your Majesty's Gracious Letter, we shall, thro' Divine Assistance, maintain a good Agreement and Unanimity among ourselves, and conduct our Debates with the Moderation, Brotherly Love and Charity, that become the Members of this Assembly, which will, no doubt, be of great Importance to the Success of our Councils and Resolutions.

Your Majesty's Choice of the Most Honourable the Marquis of Lothian, to represent Your Royal Person in this Assembly, who hath on former Occasions given ample Proofs of his Capacity and Ability, and of his Zeal for Your Majesty's Service, and who constantly discovers his great Affection and Concern for the Church of Scotland, is most acceptable to us, especially while in this we cannot but with all Thankfulness observe Your Majesty's tender Regard to us, in honouring him with Your Royal Commission, upon such Considerations. We shall do all that is in our Power to make the Discharge of his great Trust, easy to him, and to bring this our Meeting to a happy Conclusion, to which his Capacity, Diligence and Application, we are persuaded, will greatly contribute.

Your Majesty's High Commissioner hath acquainted us, that Your Majesty hath been graciously pleased to renew Your Charitable Donation for the Reformation of the Highlands and Islands, which we look upon as a fresh Instance of Your Majesty's tender Concern for the Spiritual as well as Temporal Good of Your Subjects. As this Royal Bounty hath formerly produced, and still continues to produce very good Effects, so it shall be our Care to bestow the same in exact Conformity to Your Royal Intentions, that the Fruits of it may more and more appear to Your Majesty's Satisfaction.

That

General Assembly, 1735.

That the Lord may eminently bleis and plentifully reward Your Majesty, for the many great Favours, which, as a Nursing Father, You are pleased to shew to this Church; that he may long preserve You, to maintain the Protestant Interest; that he may bleis and long preserve Your Royal Consort the Queen, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and all the rest of the Royal Family; that he may graciously direct all Your Majesty's Councils in the present Critical Conjunction of Affairs, and honour You to be a glorious Instrument of restoring Peace to Europe; and preserving the Ballance of Power in it; and that after a long and happy Reign over an obedient and affectionate People, You may be Crowned with Glory and Immortality; and that Your Earthly Crown may descend to Successors of Your Royal Line to the latest Posterity; are, and shall be the sincere and hearty Prayers of,

May it please Your Majesty,

Your Majesty's most faithful, most obedient, and most loyal Subjects,

The Ministers and Elders met in the National Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our Name, in our Presence, and at our Appointment,

ALEX^r. ANDERSON Moderator;

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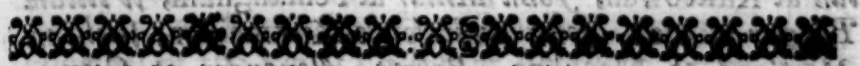
IV.

Act reviving a former Recommendation, for raising a Fund in each Synod, for maintaining the indigent Widows and Orphans of Ministers therein.

Edinburgh, May 16th, 1735, ante Merid. Sess. 8.

THE General Assembly having considered a Scheme proposed for one general Fund, to be managed by the General Assembly and their Deputies, for maintaining all the Widows and Orphans of Ministers within this National Church; as also, considering the Scheme for Synodical Funds, for that Effect established by the 4th Act of the General Assembly 1718; and judging that the said Scheme for Synodical Funds should be adhered to, and vigorously advanced, as being free of several great Difficulties, which would necessarily occur, both in raising and managing of the more general Fund: And there being now no Prospect of any Success in the said Scheme for a general Fund; and whereas the Project for the said general Fund, has for some Years past very much interrupted the usual and ordinary Contribution to the Synodical Funds, which are by the above Act of Assembly 1718, required to be paid in by every Minister, within two Years after his Ordination or Admission; and whereas the General Assembly, by their 10th Act 1723, did, with Consent of the Contributors, enlarge the Time formerly allowed for receiving new Contributions for one Year further, after *Whitsunday* 1723: The General Assembly, for the Encouragement of all who are now desirous to contribute to the said Fund, and has neglected it in the Time appointed, do again grant a further Enlargement of Time for that Effect, in the Manner mentioned in the said 10th Act Assembly 1723; and accordingly recommend to Ministers, within the several Synods and Presbyteries of this National Church, who have already contributed, that they would consent yet to admit such others to join with them, as shall be willing to pay in the *Decima* of their Stipend to the said Fund, betwixt and the Term of *Whitsunday* 1736, with the Annualrent thereof, from the Time it should first have been

been paid, conform to the foresaid Acts of Assembly made to that Effect.



V Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for discussing divers Affairs referred to them.

Edinburgh, May 17th, 1735, Sess. II.

THE General Assembly finding, that there are divers weighty Affairs which they cannot undertake, do hereby nominate, commissionate and appoint the Reverend Mr. *Alexander Anderson* at St. Andrews their Moderator, Messrs. *John Shaw* at South Leith, *James Smith* Principal of the College of Edinburgh, *John Guthrie* at Ratho, *John Walker* at Canongate, *John Glen* at Edinburgh, *George Lindsay* at North Leith, *John Gaudie* Professor of Divinity in the University at Edinburgh, *John Brand* at Borrowstouness, *James Kidd* at Queensferry, *John Bonar* at Torphichen, *William Anderson* at Falkirk, *John Tait* at Kilbucho, *Simon Kellie* at Glenholm, *John Hay* at Peebles, *William Wallace* at Drumelzier, *John Baird* at Stobo, *David Lindsay* at Cockpen, *James Paton* at Carington, *William Smith* at Cranston, *Mathew Simson* at Pencaitland, *Andrew Robertson* at Gladsmuir, *Archibald Blair* at Garvet, *Alexander Pyot* at Dumbair, *John Lundie* at Old Hamstocks, *Laurence Johnston* at Dunce, *Walter Hart* at Buncle, *George Redpath* at Ladykirk, *Robert Wauch* at Hutton, *George Home* at Hilton, *James Ramsay* at Kelso, *James Christie* at Morbottle, *James Noble* at Eckford, *James Winchester* at Jedburgh, *John Cranston* at Ancrum, *John Bell* at Gordon, *David Duncan* at Stow, *William Hunter* at Lillisleat, *Henry Erskine* at Robertoun, *James McGarroch* at Eskdalemuir, *Thomas Howie* at Annan, *John Allan* at Kirkmichael, *James M'Euen* at Moffat, *Robert Fardine* at Lochmaben, *Peter Rae* at Kirkconnel, *Alexander Bain* at Keir, *James Guthrie* at Irongray, *Robert Wight* at Dumfries, *Thomas M'Kinnel* at Duncrore.

Dunscore, James Monteith at Borgue, Robert Donaldson
 at Balmaclellan, John Welsh at Anwoth, James M'Clellan
 at Kirkcowan, John Millar at Penningham, William
 Biggar at Inch, John Anderson at Kirkmaiden, William
 Maitland at Machline, Robert Alexander at Girvan,
 John Key at Culton, John Campbell at Bar, John Hunter at
 Air, John Adam at Kirkbride, John Chiefley at Finwick,
 Malcolm Brown at Kilbirnie, Robert Mitchel at Paisly, Alex-
 ander Clark at Nielston, Robert Paton at Benfrew, John
 Currie at Old Monkland, William Hamilton at Bothwell,
 John Muirhead at Glasford, James Hepburn at Craw-
 ford, Thomas Wharry at Lesmahago, John Wilson at
 Carstairs, James Rob at Kilsyth, Alexander Maxwell at
 Rutherglen, John Oughterson at Cumbernauld, Niel
 Campbell Principal of the College of Glasgow, John Mil-
 ler at Wester Kilpatrick, Robert M'Farlane at Buchanan,
 James Bayne at Killearn, Dougald Stewart at Rothsay,
 Robert Glen at Lochgoilhead, Dougald Bannantyne at
 Kilmorie in Arran, Dougald Campbell at Southend, Dun-
 can Campbell at Kilmartine, Alexander Campbell at In-
 verary, James Campbell at Killbrandon, James Forbes at
 Kilchrean, William Morison at Tirrie, John M'Lean
 at Kilninian in Mull, George Frier at Lethindy, John
 Gow at Cargill, Duncan M'Lea at Dull, Fergus Fergus-
 son at Fortingall, Thomas Black at Perth, Peter Palmore
 at Forgan, Lauchlan M'Intosh at Errol, Robert Covin-
 tree at Kilspindie, Charles Muir at Stirling, Henry Lind-
 say at Bothkennar, John Bruce at Airth, Andrew Ure
 at Fosseway, William Hunter at Gask, William Hally
 at Mathill, John Seark at Lecropt, Thomas Turner at
 Tollyhallan, James Wardlaw at Dumfermline, Thomas
 Mair at Orwall, Daniel Hunter at Carnock, James Hen-
 ry at Kinghorn, John Auchinleck at Auchterderran, Ro-
 bert Balfour at Balingrie, John Stark at Logie, James
 Bruce at Creich, Thomas Ker at Balmetino, Patrick
 Mactoun at Auchtermuchty, James Hadow Principal of
 the New College of St. Andrews, James Walker at Leu-
 chars, James Nairn at Anstruther Easter, Thomas Key
 at Kilkebbie, Joseph Drew Principal of St. Leonard's Col-
 lege at St. Andrews, James Ramsay at Bendochie, Lau-
 rence Brown at Lintrethan, Thomas Ayton at Alyth,
 Thomas Mitchell at Aberlemno, John Martin at Othlay,
 James Hodge at Longforgan, John Willison at Dundee,
 Thomas Donaldson at Liff, James Small at Carmylie,
 William Dall at Barry, John Dunbar at Menmore, Jo-
 nes Bell at Logie and Pert, David Blair at Brichen, Gil-
 bert

bert Anderson at Fordoun, *Anthony Dow* at Petteccairn,
James Honeyman at Kinneff, *James Farquhar* at Nigg,
James Mitchel at Old Aberdeen, *Alexander Strachan* at
 Footdee, *Arthur Mitchel* at Kinnellar, *George Chalmers*
 Principal of the King's College at Aberdeen, *James Chal-*
mers Professor of Divinity in the Maristhal College there,
Lewis Reid at Strachan, *Robert Willock* at Echt, *John*
Shepherd at Collieston, *James Gordon* at Alford, *Walter*
Sim at Tillinele, *Andrew Moir* at Towie, *William For-*
bes at Tarves, *Thomas Forbes* at Slains, *George Gordon*
 at Bourty, *George Moir* at Kintore, *William Wat* at In-
 verury, *John Forbes* at Old Deer, *Robert Farquhar* at
 Peterhead, *John Brown* at Langside, *Andrew Ker* at Tur-
 rest, *William Duff* at King Edward, *James Innes* at Bamff,
Alexander Irvine at Fordice, *John Gilchrist* at Keith,
Alexander Chalmers at Glass, *William Grant* at Aber-
 nethy, *Francis Grant* at Duthill, *John Paul* at Rothes,
George Grant at Boharm, *Lauchlan Shaw* at Elgin,
George Gordon at Alves, *John Crockat* at Dallas, *John*
Squire at Forreels, *Farquhar Beton* at Croy, *Archibald*
Bannantyne at Dore, *George Gordon* at Cromarty,
Thomas Inglis at Cullicudden, *Daniel Beton* at Role-
 keen, *John M'Arthur* at Logie Easter, *John Baine* at
 Dingwall, *Murdo M'Kenzie* at Containe, *John M'Kenzie*
 at Lagan, *Daniel M'Aulay* at Braccadale, *Daniel M'Queen*
 at Rum and Egg, *John M'Lean* at Northuis, *Aulay*
M'Aulay at Harris, *Aeneas Sage* at Lochcarron, *Aeneas*
M'Aulay at Applecross, *Robert Kirk* at Dornoch, *John*
Sutherland at Golspie, *Walter Ross* at Tongue, *William*
Innes at Tharlo, *Hugh Corss* at Bowar, *Thomas Baikie*
 at Kirkwall, *William Mair* at Holm, *Andrew Graham* at
 Firth, *John Nisbet* at Sandwick, *John Scollay* at Stron-
 say, *James Jamison* at Rousay, *Thomas Hay* at Yell, and
Thomas Waldie at Lerwick, Ministers; His Grace *James*
Duke of Athole, the most Honourable *John Marquis* of
Tweeddale, the Right Honourable *David Earl* of *Buchan*,
Thomas Earl of *Haddington*, *Charles Earl* of *Lauderdale*,
Alexander Earl of *Leven*, *Alexander Earl* of *March-*
mont, *James Earl* of *Hyndford*, *John Earl* of *Glasgow*,
Archibald Earl of *Ray*, *James Lord Aberdour*, *William*
Lord Ross, *James Lord Cranstoun*, *Francis Lord Napier*,
George Lord Reay, *Sir Hugh Dalrymple* of North Ber-
 wick, *Bart. Lord President* of the Court of Session, *Dun-*
can Forbes, Esq. his Majesty's Advocate, *Sir Walter Pringle*
 of Newhall, *Sir Gilbert Elliot* of Minto, *Bart. Mr. Hugh*
Dalrymple

Dalrymple of Drumore, Mr. *Patrick Campbell* of Monzie, Mr. *Alexander Frazer* of Strichen, Mr. *Patrick Grant* of Elchies, and Mr. *John Sinclair* of Murkle, seven of the Senators of the College of Justice, Sir *John Clark* of Pennycook, Bart. one of the Barons of Exchequer, *John Osburn* late Provost of Edinburgh, *James Balfour* of Pilrig, Dr. *John Riddel* Physician, *Patrick Lindsay*, Esq; Lord Provost of Edinburgh, *James Sim* Deacon of the Wrights there, *Archibald McAulay*, Esq; Conservator of the Scots Privileges in Campvere, *Alexander Gillon* of Wathouse, *George Dundas* of Dundas, Mr. *Alexander Hamilton* of Innerwick, Mr. *Charles Erskine* of Edenshead, *William Scot* of Mosfennan, *Francis Gibson* Provost of Peebles, *Richard Jamison* in Hundellhope, Mr. *Robert Dundas* of Arniston, Mr. *George Buchan* of Cumlodge, Mr. *Alexander Hamilton* of Pencaitland, Mr. *Hugh Dalrymple* of Castleton, Mr. *Thomas Hamilton* Advocate, *Lodowick Cant* of Thurston, Mr. *John Swinton* of That-Ilk, Mr. *Charles Binning* of Pilmore, *Archibald Douglas* of Cavers, *James Rutherford* of Bowland, *John Johnston* Provost of Annan, *William Kennedy* in Hightae, Mr. *William Kirkpatrick* Advocate, *William Harkness* in Mitchel-Slaiks, *John Crichton* Provost of Sanquhar, Mr. *Charles Erskine* of Barjarg his Majesty's Solicitor, *George Bell* Bailie of Drumfries, Sir *Thomas Gordon* of Earlston, Bart. *Mathew Millar* Baillie in New Galloway, Mr. *John McGowan* Writer to the Signet, *John MLurg* in Borgan, *Hugh Hathorn* late Baillie of Edinburgh, Sir *Andrew Agnew* of Lochnew, Bart. Mr. *Hugh Dalrymple* Advocate, Col. *William Dalrymple* of Glenmore, Mr. *James Boswell* of Auchinleck Advocate, Mr. *William Warner* of Ardier, Sir *John Maxwell* of Pollock, Bart. *William Somerwell* Baillie of Renfrew, Major *John Robertson* of Ernock, Mr. *James Baillie* of Hardington, *John Bryce* of Lumloch, *Andrew Ramsay* Provost of Glasgow, *Walter White* Baillie of Rutherglen, *William Cunningham* of Ballindalloch, Mr. *James Smollet* of Inghlifton, Sir *James Campbell* of Arkinglaffs, Bart. *William Stewart* of Hartwood, *John Campbell* late Provost of Edinburgh, Capt. *John Campbell* of Lymfield, Sir *James Campbell* of Aberuchill, Bart. *John Campbell* Writer in Edinburgh, Sir *Duncan Campbell* of Lochnell, Capt. *James Menzies* of Comry, *George Hay* of Leys, *James Davidson* late Baillie of Perth, *Colin Brown* late Provost there, Mr. *Alexander Bruce* of Kennet, Mr. *James Erskine* of Grange, *James Fenton* of Millearn, Mr. *Alexander Abercromby* of Tilliebodie,

Tilliebodie, *James Wardlaw* of Netherbeath, *David Wilson* Merchant in Dumfermline, Colonel *John Erskine* of Carnock, *John Boswal* of Balmuto, *James Barclay* late Provost of Kirkcaldy, *David Ballingall* of Edenthead, *John Condie* Baillie of Auchtermuchty, Mr. *James Lesly* Advocate, *Alexander Walker* of St. Fort, Mr. *James Duncan* Professor of Philosophy in the University of St. Andrews, *Robert Waddell* Baillie of Kilenzie, *William Anderson* Baillie of Anstruther-Easter, *Alexander Rob* Baillie of Anstruther-Wester, *Thomas Gibson* of Milhorn, *Thomas Adamson* Merchant in Kirriemuir, *Robert Pitcairn* Writer in Dundee, *Patrick Maxwell* present Provost of Dundee, *James Doig* Dean of Gild of Aberbrothwick, *Alexander Miln* Baillie in Montrose, *Charles Crockat* one of the present Baillies of Edinburgh, *Robert Stewart* late Provost of Aberdeen, Mr. *Alexander Arbuthnot* of Knox, *Hugh Hay* Provost of Aberdeen, *William Cruickshanks* late Provost there, Sir *Arthur Forbes* of Craigievar, Bart. *James Forbes* of Balfluig, *James Dick* Merchant in Bomakeffle, Captain *John Forbes* of Boyndly, Mr. *Alexander Gairden* of Troup, Mr. *Archibald Campbell* Preacher of the Gospel, *Thomas Grant* of Auchynanie, *Lodowick Colquhoun* of Luss, *Joseph Brodie* of Milton, *James Brodie* of Whitehill, Mr. *Alexander Gordon* of Ardoch, *John Gorrie* Factor to Sir *William Gordon* of Inner-gordon, Bart. Mr. *Albert Monro* of Coull, *William M Leod* of Eboft, *Kenneth Mackenzie* in Lochcaren, *Angus Mathieson* in Shiness, Sir *Robert Dunbar* of Northfield, Bart. Mr. *John Hay* of Balbithan, *John Balfour* of Trinabie, and Captain *James Craigie* Baillie of Lerwick, Ruling Elders, to be Commissioners of this General Assembly, to the Effects after mentioned, with Power to the said Commissioners, or their Quorum, which is hereby declared to be any Thirty one of the said Commissioners, whereof Twenty one are always to be Ministers, to meet and convene within the Assembly-house at *Edinburgh*, the first free Day after the Dissolution of this Assembly, at Ten of the Clock Forenoon, and afterwards the second *Wednesdays* of *August*, *November* and *March* next to come, and oftner, when and where they shall think fit and convenient, with Power to the said Commissioners to chuse their own Moderator: And likewise, the General Assembly fully impowers their said Commissioners, or their Quorum above mentioned, to cognosce and finally determine, as they shall see Cause, in every Matter referred, or that shall be referred to them,

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by

by any Act or Order of this Assembly, and to do every Thing contained in, and conform to the Instructions given, or to be given by this Assembly; and to advert to the Interest of the Church, on every Occasion, that the Church, and present Establishment thereof, do not suffer or sustain any Prejudice, which they can prevent, as they will be answerable; Providing always, That this general Clause be not extended to particular Affairs, or Processes before Synods or Presbyteries, that are not of universal Concern to, or Influence upon the whole Church. And it is hereby appointed, That no private Processes be determined, except at the four stated Diets, and what shall be determined at one Diet of the Commission, with Relation to private Causes, shall be unalterable by any other Diet thereof, and shall stand and continue in Force till disapproved by the General Assembly: And the General Assembly renews the Instructions given by the General Assembly 1717 to their Commission; and appoints the same to stand in full Force, as Instructions to the Commissioners above named, and to be observed by them in all Points, as if the same were specially here insert; and that they enquire into the publishing and spreading of Books and Pamphlets, tending towards the promoting of Opinions of whatever Kind, inconsistent with our Confession of Faith, and the Recommenders of such Books or Pamphlets, or the Errors therein contained, whether by Word, Writ or Print, be called before the said Commission, to answer for the same. And further, The said Commission is hereby empowered to receive any References and Appeals that shall be made to them from Synods, in Matters of Doctrine, and ripen such Affairs for the General Assembly: Likewise to take Care, that the Impressions of the Holy Scriptures, the Confession of Faith and Catechisms, and such Books as are authorized by this Church, relating to the Doctrine, Worship, Discipline and Government thereof, be correct, and to give Directions about printing the same. They are also appointed, at their first Meeting, to take under Consideration all Representations of the Growth of Popery, within the Bounds of this National Church, and of Meeting-houses not authorized by Law, which have been brought up to this and former Assemblies, or Commissions thereof, or may be further offered to this Commission, and to apply to the Government for a proper Remedy and speedy Redress. And the said Commissioners are hereby strictly prohibited and discharged to meddle in any other Matters than what are committed and referred to them, as above mentioned: And in all their

Actings;

Actings, they are to proceed according to the Acts and Constitutions of this Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the Prejudice of the same; Declaring, that in and for all their Actings, they shall be accountable to, and censurable by the next General Assembly, as they shall see Cause. And this Commission is to continue and endure until another Commission be appointed; and the Members are required to attend the Diets of the said Commission, and Absents therefrom ordered to be noticed, according to the seventeenth Act of the General Assembly 1706. And for the better securing of a Quorum, and Attendance of Members on the Commission, the General Assembly prohibits the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, or any other Presbyteries within twelve Miles thereof, to meet any of the Days or Weeks appointed for the Meeting of this Commission, and such of the Members of these Presbyteries, as are on the Commission, are required all of them to give Attendance on the Diets thereof, and Presbyteries at a greater Distance, who have four or more Members on the Commission, are to take Care, that at least two of them attend each Diet of the same. And the Assembly recommend to their Commission, at their first Meeting, to discuss as many of the Causes and Questions, relative to the Settlement of vacant Churches, which are or shall be referred to them by the Assembly, as they can overtake. And it is further provided, That when any Presbytery or Synod of this Church, shall decline to comply with the Sentences of the Commission, or to give the same a full Execution; in that Case, the Commission is hereby prohibited to execute the same, by appointing any such Correspondent Meetings, as has been the Practice of late, but shall allow the Matter to ly over to the ensuing Assembly, to which such Presbyteries or Synods shall be answerable for such their Conduct, and are hereby appointed to send up with their Commissioners their Reasons for the same,

VI.

*Act and Recommendation concerning Students in Divinity.**At Edinburgh, 19th May, 1735, Sess. 11.*

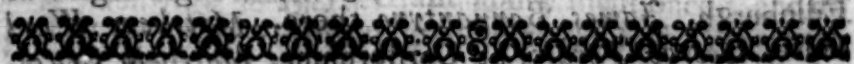
THE General Assembly recommends to all Presbyteries and Ministers, when they come to know any Error or Vice in Students of Divinity, to give Notice thereof to the Professor of Divinity under whom such Students are taught, with an Account how the same can be proved; and also recommends to them not to be rash or hasty in receiving Reports to the Prejudice of Students, but to be careful to discourage groundless or malicious Reports, and to protect the Characters of such as do not appear to be truly guilty: And the Assembly recommends it to Professors of Divinity to be diligent to enquire concerning the Principles and Practice of the Youth under their Care; and do renew their former Recommendation to Professors of Divinity, contained in the 22d Act of the General Assembly 1696, concerning the requiring Testimonials from Students whom they admit to Exercises.

VII.

*Act and Recommendation for preserving Unity, and preventing Error within this Church.**Edinburgh, May 19. Sess. 11.*

THE General Assembly considering, with great Grief and Regret, That Deism, Infidelity, Popery, and other gross Errors appear to be very prevalent and threatening in this Island at this Day; and that it is the Duty of this Church to do all in her Power, under divine Direction, for suppressing the same, and preventing the Growth thereof; Therefore, Do earnestly recommend it to all Ministers

nisters and others to have this Matter at Heart, and to do, under God, what they can for reaching the above Ends; and in order thereto, and for their greater Success herein, the Assembly earnestly recommend it to all Ministers to maintain as far as in them lies, brotherly Love, Peace and Unity amongst themselves, and amongst the People under their Charge; and in all their more publick Appearances to avoid uncharitable Reflections, and all just Grounds of Irritation tending to gender Strife more than to promote Edification.



VIII.

Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, and managing his Majesty's Royal Bounty for that End.

Edinburgh, May 19. 1735. Sess. 11.

THE General Assembly finding, That diverse late General Assemblies had granted Commissions to some Ministers and Ruling Elders, for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands, and Management of his Majesty's Royal Bounty for that End; and finding, that it has pleased our gracious Sovereign the King, out of his Royal Bounty, to renew his Grant of One Thousand Pounds *Sterling*, for the Ends foresaid this Year; Therefore they do hereby nominate, commissionate and appoint, the Reverend Mr. *Alexander Anderson* at St. Andrews their Moderator, Masters *Niel Campbell* Principal of the College of Glasgow, *John Gowdie* Professor of Divinity in the College of Edinburgh, *William Guthart* at Edinburgh, *John Mathieson* there, *Robert Bell* at Crealline, and *John Lumsden* at Banchory, his Majesty's Chaplains, *Niel M'Vicar* at West-kirk his Majesty's Almoner, *John Shaw* at South-Leith, *John Guthrie* at Ratho, *James Smith* Principal of the College of Edinburgh, *John Walker* at Canongate, *John Glen* at Edinburgh, *George Lindsay* at North-Leith, *Laurence Johnston* at Dunse, *James Monteith* at Borgue, *John Hunter* at Air, *Dougald Stewart* at Rothsay,

lay, *James Campbell* at Kilbrandon, *Alexander M'Lagan* at Little Dunkeld, *John Gib* at Clissh, *Laurence Brown* at Lintrethan, *George Chalmers* Principal of the King's College at Aberdeen, *James Chalmers* Professor of Divinity in the Marshall College there, *George Gordon* at Alves, *Murdo M'Kenzie* at Contane, *Aneas Sage* at Lochcaron, *Robert Kirk* at Dornoch, *John Scollay* at Stronsay, *Andrew Moir* at Towie, *Thomas Waldie* at Lerwick, *Samuel Semple* at Liberton, *John Thorburn* at Kirknewton, *James Walker* at Canongate, *James Nisbet* at Edinburgh, *David M'Colm* at Dudingston, *George Logan* at Edinburgh, *James Bannantyne* there, *Matthew Wood* there, *George Fordyce* at Cornhill, *Matthew Crawford* Professor of Ecclesiastical History in the University of Edinburgh, *William Robertson* at Edinburgh, *William Brown* there, *Robert Kinloch* there, *John Taylor* there, *John Hepburn* there, *Alexander Ker* in the Castle-kirk, *John Spark* at Currie, *Patrick Cuming* at Edinburgh, *James Stevenson* at South Leith, *Robert Wallace* at Edinburgh, *George Wishart* there, *Robert Hamilton* at Gramond, *George Gibson* at Colington, *Duncan Campbell* at Kilmartin, *John Bain* at Dingwall, *Daniel M'Aulay* at Braccadale, *James Gordon* at Alford, and *Lauchlan M'Intosh* at Errol, Ministers; The Rt. Hon. *Alexander Earl of Leven*, *John Earl of Glasgow*, *Archibald Earl of Jlay*, *Sir Hugh Dalrymple* of Northberwick Bart. Lord President of the Court of Session, *Duncan Forbes Esq;* His Majesty's Advocate, *Sir Walter Pringle* of Newhall, *Mr. Hugh Dalrymple* of Drumore, *Mr. Patrick Campbell* of Monzie, *Mr. Patrick Grant* of Elchies, four of the Senators of the College of Justice, *Sir John Clark* of Pennycook Baronet one of the Barons of Exchequer, *Mr. James Erskine* of Grange, *Mr. Robert Dundas* of Arniston, *Mr. Charles Erskine* of Barjarg his Majesty's Solicitor, *John Osburn* late Provost of Edinburgh, *James Balfour* of Pilrig, Doctor *John Riddel* Physician, *Archibald M'Aulay Esq;* Lord Conservator of the Scots Privileges at Campvere, *Patrick Lindsay Esq;* Lord Provost of Edinburgh, *James Simson* Dean of Gild of Edinburgh, *James Sim* Deacon of the Wrights there, *Mr. Robert Hepburn* of Baads Writer to the Signet, *Mr. James Davidson* Treasurer to the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, *James Young* of Killicanty, *Thomas Dundas* of Fingask late Baillie of Edinburgh, *Mr. Alexander Mitchel* of Mitchel, *John Paton* Bookseller in Edinburgh, *James Nimmo* Merchant and late Dean of Gild of Edinburgh, *Mr. Charles Erskine* of Eden-

Edenhead, Colonel *John Erskine* of Carnock, Sir *James Campbell* of Aberuchil, Bart. Sir *Thomas Gordon* of Earlston, Bart. *John Campbell Esq*, late Provost of Edinburgh, Mr. *George Buchanan* of Coumlege, Mr. *Albert Monro* of Coull, Mr. *Alexander M'Millan* of Dunmore, *John Dunbar* Glover in Edinburgh, *Hugh Hathorn* late Baillie in Edinburgh, and *Nicol Spence* Agent for the Church, Ruling Elders, to be a Committee of this Assembly for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland and for managing the Royal Bounty for the End aforesaid, according to and in Terms of his Majesty's Grant above mentioned; and do hereby renew the Powers granted to the said Committee by the sixth Act of the General Assembly 1734, and the whole Acts therein mentioned in all Points. Any seven of the foresaid Persons are declared to be a Quorum, whereof four are always to be Ministers, and the foresaid Committee are appointed to have their Meetings in the Hall of the Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge, the last Thursday of every Month, at Three Afternoon, and also the first lawful Day after Adjournment of the four stated Diets of the Commission of this Assembly, at Ten of the Clock Forenoon, except when it falls to be on Friday or Saturday, and then the Meeting is to be on Monday next thereafter, with Power to adjourn themselves to such Times and Places as they shall find needful, and to keep a Correspondence with the Commission of this Assembly, and Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, and their Committee. And the General Assembly do hereby nominate and appoint Mr. *William Grant* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, to be Receiver of the foresaid Royal Bounty, and to pay out the same as he shall be directed and ordered by the foresaid Committee, and according to their Rules.

IX.

Act appointing the Diet of the next General Assembly.*Edinburgh, May 20. 1735. Sess. ult.*

TH E next General Assembly of this National Church is appointed to be held at *Edinburgh*, upon the second *Thursday* of *May* next, being the Thirteenth Day of that Month, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and thirty six.

The General Assembly was concluded with Prayer, and singing Part of the CII. Psalm, from the 16th to the 18th Verses, and pronouncing the Blessing.

Collected and extracted from the Records of the General Assembly, by

WILLIAM GRANT Clk. Eccl. Socr.



Overtures transmitted by the General Assembly, to the several Presbyteries.

May 20th. 1735. Sess. ult.

The Assembly transmits to the several Presbyteries the following Overture anent preaching, that they may report their Opinion concerning the same, to the next General Assembly, viz.

Overture anent Preaching.



THE General Assembly being moved with Zeal for the Honour of Christ, especially at a Time when the Christian Revelation is openly impugned, and Infidelity, Deism and other Errors do so much prevail, they do hereby recommend to all Ministers and Preachers within this Church, seriously to consider and observe the Directory of this Church, concerning the Preaching of the Word, which is approved by the General Assembly 1645, and bound together with our Confession of Faith: And in particular, that they be careful to warn their Hearers, against any Thing tending to Atheism, Deism, Arianism, Arminianism, Bourignianism, Popery, Superstition, Socinianism, Antinomianism, or any other Errors; and that in their Sermons they do insist frequently upon the Truth, Necessity and Excellency of supernatural Revelation, the supreme Deity of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost; our lost and sinful State by Nature, the Necessity of supernatural Grace, and of Faith in the Righteousness of Christ, without which the best Works cannot please God; and that they make it the great Scope and End of their Sermons, to lead Sinners from a Covenant of Works to a Covenant of Grace, and from Sin and Self, to precious Christ, who is the meritorious Cause and Fountain both of our Justification and Sanctification. And the General Assembly recommends to all who preach the Gospel, when they handle the Doctrines of God's redeeming Love, and of his free Grace in the Justification and Salvation of Sinners, the Privileges of the new Covenant, and the Blessings of our Redeemer's Purchase, to study to manage the Subjects, so as to lead their Hearers unto the Abhorrence of Sin, and to the Love of God and their

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Neighbours, and the Practice of universal Holiness, seeing it is one great End of the Gospel to destroy the Works of the Devil, and to teach Men to live soberly, righteously and Godly in this present World. Upon which Account it is incumbent upon all those who preach the Necessity and Excellency of Faith in Jesus Christ for Salvation, to insist also upon the Necessity of Repentance for Sin, and of Reformation from it; and to press the Practice of all moral Duties, both with respect to the first and second Tables of the Law, as indispensibly necessary, in Obedience to God's holy Law, and to testify our Gratitude to him, to evidence the Sincerity of our Faith, to beautify human Society, to adorn the Profession of Religion, and to make us meet for eternal Life, seeing *without Holiness no Man can see the Lord*. And the Assembly do seriously recommend to all Ministers and Preachers of the Gospel, that in pressing moral Duties, or Obedience to the Law, they shew the Excellency of Gospel-holiness, and inforce Conformity to the moral Law in Heart and Life, not from Principles of Reason only, but also, and more especially of Revelation; and in order to attain to it, it is necessary to shew Men the Corruption and Depravity of human Nature by their Fall in *Adam*, their natural Impotence and Aversion to what is spiritually good, and to lead them to the true Fountain and Source of all Grace and Holiness, *viz.* Union with Christ by the Spirit, Faith, and the renewing of the Holy Ghost: And to let their Hearers know, that they must first be grafted in Christ as their Root, before their Fruit be savoury unto God: that they must have a new Principle to animate them, and a new End to direct them, before either the Habits of the Soul, or the Actions of the Life become truly gracious and acceptable in the Sight of God. And furthermore, to teach them the Necessity of living by Faith upon the Son of God, and of constant looking to him, as the great Author of new gracious Influences, for the Performance of every Duty; and after all their Performances and Attainments, to learn to count all but Loss and Dung in Point of Justification before God, and to make it their great Desire to be found only in Christ and his Righteousness; and that Ministers, in Application of their Discourses, do endeavour rightly to divide the Word of Truth, speaking distinctly to the various Cases of converted and unconverted; and that in the whole of their Discourses, they take Care to suit their Sermons to the Capacity of their Hearers, as to Matter,
Method

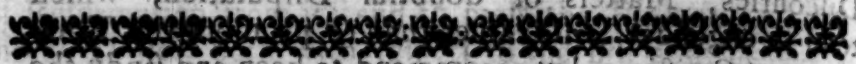
Method and Expression. And, the General Assembly do recommend to all who preach the Gospel, to make such Gospel-subjects their main Theme and Study, and to press with all Earnestness the Practice of moral Duties in a Gospel-manner, and to forbear delivering such Discourses in Publick, as tend more to Amusement than Edification; and to beware of bringing into their Sermons and publick Discourses, Matters of doubtful Disputation, which tend to engender Strife rather than to promote the Edification of Christians, but recommend to keep and study the Unity of the Spirit in the Bond of Peace.

Overture anent the Manner of electing the Members of the Commission, and concerning their Powers.

That the Committee for naming the Members of the Commission, be appointed to observe that due Proportion betwixt Ministers and Elders, which obtains in the Assembly, and that Care be taken by them, that such of the Nobility, Officers of State, Lords of Session and Barons of Exchequer, who use to be superadded to the Nomination, be, in Time coming, named from the several Presbyteries or Burghs which they are to represent in Assemblies, and that such others of them alienarly be superadded, who cannot be named as above; and that this may be evident to the Members of the Assembly, the Clerks be appointed to extend the Rolls in the same Order with the Rolls of Assembly. *2do*, That when any Presbytery of this Church do not comply with the Sentences of the Commissions, relating to Settlements of Ministers, or consent not to give the same a full Execution; in that Case the Commission be discharged to execute the same, by appointing any Correspondent Meetings, but shall allow the Matter to ly over to the ensuing Assembly. *Lastly*, That the above Regulations be transmitted to the several Presbyteries, to be by them reported to the next Assembly, in Order to be enacted as a standing Rule, in Time coming, in Case the more general Opinion of this Church be found to agree thereto.

Overture anent Acts Rescissory.

THAT no Act Rescissory of any standing Acts of the General Assembly be past, until such Acts Rescissory be first transmitted to the several Presbyteries of this Church.

*Overture anent Lists of Probationers, to be annually presented to the General Assembly.*

WHEREAS several Inconveniences may arise thro' the licensing of too many Probationers, Means should therefore be devised, whereby the Church may know as near as can be the exact Number of their Probationers; and whereas the Act of the General Assembly, January 4th, 1697, has not hitherto been executed in such effectual Manner as may sufficiently answer the foresaid End, it is therefore overtured, for the more effectual and regular Execution of the said Act, that it be further enacted, That each Presbytery shall extract from their Records, the Names of the several Probationers licensed by them, and the Dates of their Licences, for 10 Years back, whom they know to be yet living any where within the Bounds of this Church, and still remaining in the State of Probationers, and that the said Extracts be annually made out upon the same Schedule, which bears the Presbytery's Commission to the Members sent yearly to the General Assembly, and to be signed in like Manner by the Moderator or Clerk, and that the said Extracts further mention the Names of such Students as are presently under Trials before the several Presbyteries, and that the Committee for examining Commissions to the Members of Assembly, be appointed to make up a Roll of the said Probationers, from the above mentioned Extracts, according to the printed Order of the several Synods and Presbyteries, beginning each Year's Roll with the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, and that the said Roll be presented to the General Assembly, as a Part of the said Committee's Annual Report, and that the same be recorded in the Assembly's Register.

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held in the Year 1735.

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Index or Abridgement

OF THE

ACTS of the General Assembly of
the Church of Scotland, held in the
Year 1735, which are not printed
at full Length.



Frer Sermon by Mr. *James Gordon* Moderator
of the last General Assembly, the Ministers
and Ruling Elders Members of this Assembly
did convene, and the Rev. Mr. *Alexander An-
derson* Minister of the Gospel at St. *Andrews*,
was chosen Moderator. *May 8th, Sess. 1.*

The King's Commission to the Marquis of *Lothian*, to re-
present his Royal Person in this Assembly, read and re-
corded. *Ibid.*

His Majesty's most gracious Letter to the Assembly, read
and ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

The Commissioner's Speech at opening this Assembly;
and the Moderator's Speech in Return thereto. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to draw an Answer to his Majesty's
gracious Letter. *Ibid.*

A Committee for Overtures named. *Ibid.*

A Committee for Bills, References and Appeals named.
Ibid.

Intimation made, that Parties lodge their Processes time-
ously in the Clerks Hands, according to Act 7th, As-
sembly 1718. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed for examining Commissions to
Members of this Assembly, and to name Ministers to
preach before his Grace his Majesty's Commissioner, and
to receive in the Lists of Probationers and Students in
Divinity; and all Letters of Excuse for Absence of
Members were ordered to be laid before this Commit-
tee. *Ibid.*

A Diet spent in Prayer. *May 9th, Sess. 2.*

Ministers

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Ministers named to preach before his Majesty's Commissioner next Lord's Day, and that Day 7-night. *Ibid.*

The Draught of an Answer to the King's most gracious Letter to this Assembly, was brought in and approved of; and the Lord Commissioner, at the Request of the Moderator in Name of the Assembly, undertakes to transmit the said Answer to his Majesty. *May 10th, Sess. 3.*

The Report of the Committee who revised the Commissions to Members of this Assembly brought in, and all the Commissions sustain'd, with a Recommendation to the Burgh of *Montrose* and other Royal Burghs, to observe the Acts of Assembly with Relation to the Members they elect to represent them in the General Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee of Persons of each Synod is appointed to revise the Register of the Commission of the late General Assembly, audit the Procurator and Agents Accounts, consider the State of the Church's Publick Money, and prepare Overtures about the same, agreeable to the 7th Act of Assembly 1712, and 8th Act of Assembly 1719, and all Claims on the publick Money ordered to be laid before the said Committee; and they were appointed to prepare any Overtures and References made by the late Commission to this Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to revise the Register of the Committee of the late General Assembly, for managing the Royal Bounty granted for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands. *Ibid.*

Committees were named to revise the Synod Books of *Lothian* and *Tweddale*, *Merse* and *Teviotdale*, *Dumfries*, *Galloway*, *Glasgow* and *Air*, *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Fife*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Aberdeen*, *Ross*, *Glenelg* and *Orkney*; but the Synod Books of *Argyle*, *Murray*, *Sutherland* and *Caithness*, and Presbytery Book of *Zetland* not being brought up to this Assembly, resolved that the Reasons thereof be afterwards enquired into. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to receive in from the Commissioners from the several Presbyteries, the Instructions and Overtures from Synods and Presbyteries, and to class the Matters therein contained; also to consider the State of the North, the Highlands and Islands, particularly concerning Popery and Superstition, and prepare Overtures for suppressing and preventing the same, and to report to the Committee for Overtures. *Ibid.*

Remitted to the Committee for Overtures, to consider the Contents of a Letter from Messieurs *John Willison*

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- and *Lauchlan M'Intosh*, two of the Commissioners sent to *London* by the late Commission of Assembly, to apply to the King and Parliament for Redress to this Church from the Grievance of Patronage, and to hear Mr. *James Gordon*, likewise sent upon that Mission, concerning their Diligence and Success therein. *Sess. 4.*
- An Appeal of Heritors, Elders and Heads of Families of the Town and Parish of *Elgin*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Murray*, laying aside two competing Calls to Messrs. *Alexander Irvine* Minister at *Auldearn*, and *Alexander Howie* Minister at *Methlick*, heard, and the Call to Mr. *Irvine* sustain'd, and the Presbytery of *Elgin* appointed to proceed in carrying on a Process for his Transportation from *Auldearn* to *Elgin*, according to the Rules of this Church. *Ibid.*
- His Majesty's Royal Warant for 1000 *l. Sterl.* granted for this, being the 10th Year, towards the Reformation of the Highlands and Islands, deliver'd in by the Lord Commissioner, and recorded in the Books of Assembly. *Ibid.*
- Ordered that a Letter be wrote to the Magistrates of *Elgin*, exhorting them to acquiesce in and concur with the Call given to Mr. *Alexander Irvine* to be their Minister; and referred to the Commission to judge in any Question may be brought before them, concerning the Settlement of *Elgin*. *May 13. Sess. 5.*
- A Reference by the late Assembly, concerning the Settlement of *Troquire*, moved, and a Committee named to confer with Parties, and endeavour to accommodate Differences. *Ibid.*
- Read a Petition of the Presbytery of *Dingwall*, against an Act pass'd by the Synod of *Ross*, of a general Concern. Heard likewise a Petition for the Parish of *Fothery*, Callers of Mr. *Colin M'Kenzie* Probationer, to be their Minister, and a Committee named to confer with Parties, in order to obtain an amicable Settlement of the Matter. *Ibid.*
- Remitted to a Committee to consider a Petition of the Presbytery of *Mull*, and another of Mr. *William Morrison* Minister of the Isles of *Tirree* and *Coll*, craving Encouragement to an Assistant Minister in the Isle of *Coll*. *Ibid.*
- Referred to a Committee to consider a Petition of Mr. *Patrick Nicolson* Minister of *Kiltarlary*, relating to a Gentleman who had threaten'd to attack the Petitioner's Person. *Ibid.*

A Repre-

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A Representation of the University of *Edinburgh*, moved, and delayed till the Members of Assembly from the several Universities meet together, according to the Act of Assembly 1645. *Ibid.*

A Petition for Mr. *Archibald Rennie* Minister at *Muckhart*, craving to be inrolled a Member of the Presbytery of *Auchterarder* being brought in, and read, the Affair was remitted to the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, who are to continue their Endeavours to obtain Harmony in that Corner, and accommodate this Affair in the Manner best tending towards Edification. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Visitors of the Commission-book brought in, and their Proceedings approved; and in particular, they got the Assembly's Thanks for their Care in causing Application to be made to the King and Parliament, for a Repeal of the Act pass'd in the 10th Year of Queen *Anne*, restoring Patronages. *Sess. 6.*

Remit to the Committee on the publick Accounts, to consider how the Expences of the Commissioners sent to *London*, to apply against Patronages, shall be defrayed. Also to report their Opinion concerning the Applications of Mr. *Patrick Scot*, Mr. *Farquhar Beton*, and Mr. *Aeneas Sage*, for certain Allowances out of the Church's publick Money. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Committee for Overtures, to consider an Overture of the late Commission about preaching; also a Proposal for a Fund, towards the Maintenance of the Widows and Orphans of Ministers. Likewise a Reference concerning some Remarks on the Writings published by Mr. *Archibald Campbell* Professor of Divinity and Church-History in the University of *St. Andrew's*. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Committee for Instructions, to hear the Report and Reference of the late Commission, concerning what has fallen out, in Consequence of the late Settlement of Mr. *Patrick Maxton* at *Auchtermuchty*. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Members from the several Universities, to report their Opinion, upon a Question betwixt the Professor of Divinity in the Marishal College of *Aberdeen*, and Sir *Alexander Ramsay* of *Balmain*, Patron of some Divinity Burses there, concerning the Qualifications of the Students he presents. *Ibid.*

References to the Commission, to judge in the Appeals of *James Paterson* from the Synod of *Dumfries*, in a Process of Adultery, *William Dudgeon* from the Synod of *Merse*, for alledged publishing an erroneous Book, *John*

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Baxter from the Synod of *Angus*, and *John M'Taggart* from the Synod of *Glasgow* and *Air*, for their alledged incestuous Marriages, depending before the late Commission, not yet discuss'd. *Ibid.*

The Proceedings of the Committee of the late General Assembly, for managing the Royal Bounty, for Reformation of the Highlands approved, and the Members of the said Committee thanked, and in particular Mr. *John Walker* Minister at *Canongate*, received the Assembly's Thanks for his having been so instrumental in carrying on the Business of the said Committee, and the great Pains he had taken therein. *Ibid.*

The said Committees report, That Mr. *James Tyrie*, who had for several Years past been employed in the North, as a Popish Priest, did, in Presence of the Synod of *Murray*, solemnly renounce the Errors of Popery, and embraced the Protestant Religion, and after signing the *Formula* prescrib'd by Act of the General Assembly, he was received by the said Synod into the Communion of this Church. The said Mr. *Tyrie* being present in the Assembly, was exhorted to persevere, and be diligent in promoting the Interest of the Protestant Religion; and it was remitted to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, to encourage Mr. *Tyrie* as a Missionary in the North, in such Places where Popery abounds. *Ibid.*

Appointed that a Call be moderated to Mr. *James Yair* Probationer, to be Minister of the Parish of *Carridden*, and that such of the Parishoners as subscribed a Petition in his Favours, do again subscribe a Call to him. *Ibid.*

Appointed, that the Moderation of the Call to Mr. *James Yair*, be upon the 30th of *May* Instant, at the Church of *Carridden*, and the Intimation thereof be the 18th Instant, from the Pulpit of the said Church; and a Reference to the Commission to judge in any Question concerning the said Settlement, *May* 15. *Sess.* 7.

Reference to the Commission to judge in any Cause concerning the Settlement of an Assistant Minister in the Town of *Aberbrothwick*. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission to decide in any Question about the planting of the Parish of *Kemback*. *Ibid.*

The Report of Mr. *James Gordon* one of the Commissioners sent to *London*, to address against Patronage, concerning the Diligence and Conduct of him and his two Colleagues on that Mission.

The Assembly resolved to appoint Commissioners repair to *London*, and make the proper Applications to the King

I N D E X

King and Parliament, for Redress of the Grievance of Patronage; and that such Commissioners correspond with the Commission of this Assembly, at their respective Diets, and recommended to Members and Ministers of this Church, to use their Interest with Members of Parliament, to consent to the easing the Church of this Grievance; and that Ministers and others be instant in Prayer to God, that he may prosper the Endeavours used for this End; and a Committee named to prepare the Draught of Instructions to be given to such Commissioners as the Assembly shall name, in Consequence of the above Resolution. *Ibid.*

Mr. *James Gordon* one of the Commissioners last sent to *London*, to apply against Patronage, thanked; and the Moderator appointed to signify the Assembly's Thanks to Messrs. *John Willison* and *Lauchlan M'Intosh* the other two Commissioners sent thither, for their Faithfulness and Diligence in prosecuting the Design of that Mission. *May 16. Sess. 8.*

The Draught of Instructions to the Commissioners to be nominated to repair to *London*, brought in, and approved of, and the Commission instructed to appoint a standing Committee to correspond with them in the Intervals of the Commission's ordinary Meetings. *Ibid.*

The Rev. Mr. *Alexander Anderson* at *St. Andrews*, Moderator of this Assembly, Mr. *James Gordon* at *Alford*, Moderator of the late General Assembly, Ministers, and Col. *John Erskine* of *Carnock*, Ruling Elder, elected Commissioners to repair to *London*, and otherwise to act, according to the Instructions abovementioned of this Date, and Act of Assembly past Yesterday. *Ibid.*

Overtures about Preaching; also concerning Highland Bursars besouth *Tay*; and bringing in of Lists of Probationers; and an Overture for regulating Commissions of Assemblies read, and ordered to ly upon the Table till another Diet. *Ibid.*

Overture for Maintenance of Ministers Widows and Orphans approved. *Ibid.*

The Members of this Assembly from the several Synods; appointed to meet and propose Persons to be of the Committee for nominating the Members of the Commission; *Ibid.*

Remitt to the Committee on the publick Accounts, to consider how the Charges of the Commissioners appointed to go to *London*, shall be defrayed. *May 16. Sess. 9.*

I N D E X

A List of Persons in the several Synods, brought in, and appointed as a Committee to draw the Commission and Instructions, and name the Members of the Commission of this Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Remit to the Committee for Overtures to prepare some proper Overture for suppressing and preventing the spreading of Popery. *Ibid.*

Agreed to forbear at this Time deciding as to the Legality of Mr. *James Pursell's* Settlement as Minister of *Troquire*. Remit to the Synod of *Drumfries* to do in Relation to the enrolling of him as a Member of the Presbytery of *Drumfries*, and concerning the Parishoners who do not submit to his Ministry, their having the Benefit of Gospel Ordinances in other Places, as the Synod shall find most for Edification. *Ibid.*

A Report of a Committee concerning the Settlement of the Parish of *Fotherty*, read, and the Cause delayed till To-morrow. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee for nominating the Members of the Commission of this Assembly, and drawing Instructions to them, brought in and approyen. *May 17. Sess. 10.*

A Committee named to bring in the Draught of a Commission to a Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, and for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands. *Ibid.*

The Accounts of the Procurator and Agent for the Church produced, and ordered to lie upon the Table till another Sederunt. *Ibid.*

An Appointment on the Presbytery of *Dingwall* to proceed to the Trials and Settlement of Mr. *Colin M'Kenzie* Probationer, to be Minister of the Parish of *Fotherty*, according to the Rules of this Church, and that notwithstanding of any Advice or Restraint by the Synod of *Ross* to the contrary, and Reference to the Commission to determine in any Question relating to that Settlement. *Ibid.*

Remitt to the Committee for Overtures about giving Advice to the Presbytery of *Lochmaben*, concerning planting the Parish of *Kirkpatrick juxta*. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission to consider the Application of Mr. *David M'Colm* Minister at *Duddingstoun*, relating to his Design of publishing an *Irish and English Dictionary*. *Ibid.*

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- Remit to the Committee of Overtures concerning the Interlocutors of the Lords of Session anent *Auchtermuchty*. *Ibid.*
- Remit to the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling* to do concerning a Petition of the Parishoners of *Muckart*, for their being allowed the Benefit of sealing Ordinances from neighbouring Ministers, as to the said Synod shall seem best to answer the Ends of Edification. *Ibid.*
- John Campbell* Esq; late Provost of *Edinburgh*, excused from being a Member of the Commission, and Mr. *Alexander M'Millan* named in his Room. *May 19. Sess. 11.*
- Mr. *John Willison* and Mr. *Lauchlan M'Intosh* Ministers; Commissioners sent by the late Commission to attend the Parliament, to present the Petition against Patronage; being returned, received the Assembly's Thanks for their Diligence and Faithfulness in that Mission. *Ibid.*
- Recommendation to all the Kirk Sessions in *Scotland*, to make a voluntary Contribution for the Relief and Support of a *German Lutheran* Congregation settled in the Prince of *Orange's* County, formerly called *Spotsylvania* County in *Virginia*, and Mr. *Alexander Arbuthnot* of *Knox* named Collector thereof. *Ibid.*
- A Collection made in the Assembly-house for Relief of several indigent Persons craving Charity. *Ibid.*
- Recommendation for a Collection to be made at the Parish Church Doors, in the Bounds of the Synods of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, *Merse* and *Teviotdale*, *Glasgow* and *Air*, *Fife*, *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, and *Aberdeen*, for Redemption of *William Dowel* a Native of *Berrey*, who is detain'd a Slave at *Algiers*, and Mr. *Alexander Arbuthnot* of *Knox* Merchant in *Edinburgh*, named Collector. *Ibid.*
- The Conduct of the Professor of Divinity in the Maristal College of *Aberdeen*, approved, in refusing to enrol as Students, any Persons not producing Certificates of their Moral Character; and a Letter ordered to be wrote to Sir *Alexander Ramsay* of *Balmain*, Patron of some Divinity Burses there, to direct his Presentees to conform to the Rules of the University and Acts of Assembly; and Reference to the Commission in *August* to do what further may be necessary in that Affair. *Ibid.*
- Recommendation to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, to allow Mr. *Hector M'Lean* 300 Merks for this Year current, and as much for the next Year ensuing, as Missionary Minister to the Isle of *Coll*; and allowed that Mr. *William Morison* Minister of the Isles

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of *Tirree* and *Coll*, be to that Extent relieved of his Obligation given to the said Mr. *Hector* for his Assistance, in Regard of Mr. *Morison's* Circumstances, set forth in the Petition of the Presbytery of *Mull*. *Ibid.*

Recommendation to the Presbytery of *Mull*, to make Enquiry concerning the Author of a profane Pamphlet, justifying Fornication, &c. the Author whereof is said to be a Member of this Church, who liv'd in the said Presbytery, and upon his being convicted as guilty thereof, to proceed against him with the Sentence of summar Excommunication, and Reference to the Commission to give Directions in such Trial. *Ibid.*

Report from the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, and Synod of *Lothian*, concerning *William Nimmo*, Student in Divinity, who had deliver'd a Discourse in the Divinity-Hall at *Edinburgh*, to the Prejudice of the Christian Revelation, that he had been excluded the University, and laid by the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, under the Censure of the lesser Excommunication; and as to another Student said to have vented some Things against the received Doctrines of this Church, that no Evidence was found of his having so done; upon which he was dismiss'd. *Ibid.*

A Motion made concerning a Representation of the University of *Edinburgh*, and an Act and Recommendation anent Students in Divinity, being found to answer the Intent of the Representation, was approved of. *Ibid.*

An Act and Recommendation against Deism, and concerning the spreading of Popery brought in, and approved. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, to consider certain Passages in three Books published by Mr. *Archibald Campbell*, Professor of Divinity and Church-History at *St. Andrew's*, said to have given Offence, and to report to the next General Assembly. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission to prepare an Overture concerning the Method of planting vacant Churches. *Ibid.*

References to the Commission, concerning the planting the Parishes of *Montrose* and *Kinnaird*; also to give Advice to the Presbytery of *Lochmaben*, anent planting the Parish of *Kirkpatrick juxta*. *Ibid.*

Act refusing to transport Mr. *James Mercer* to the Parish of *Dron*, and continuing him in his Charge at *Aberdalgie*. *Ibid.*

The Report of a Committee named to bring in the Draught of a Commission, to the Committee for managing

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managing the Royal Bounty, and Nomination of the Members, approved. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, to judge in the Process a-
gent planting the Parish of *Dennie*. *Ibid.*

Report of the Committee for auditing the Accounts of the Church's Publick Money, finding, That there is yet resting of the Sums already ordered to be paid out of it, 275 *l.* 2 *s.* 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* *Sterl.* and that there is only 78 *l.* 6 *s.* 8 *d.* yearly, above the stated annual Charges to pay the same; that the Commissioners sent to *London* last Year, claim nothing thereof, being paid by a private voluntary Contribution; and the Commission are impowered to do what they shall find needful, in order to provide the Expences of the Commissioners, appointed by this Assembly to attend the Parliament; and ordering the Procurator for the Church to apply the foresaid 78 *l.* 6 *s.* 6 *d.* yearly, as the same comes in, towards Payment of the bygone Debts of the Church, as they are already ranked; and that the other Claims not stated, ly over to be considered as to the Merits thereof; but resolved that the same be preferable to others that may be offered according to their respective Applications, in so far as the same shall be allowed. *Ibid.*

At approving the Accounts of Mr. *William Grant* Procurator for the Church his Introrissions with his Majesty's Allowance to the Church for the Terms of Midsummer last, and three quarterly Terms preceeding, and discharging him and his Cautioners thereof, except a Ballance of 15 *l.* 6 *s.* 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* to be stated as an Article of Charge upon him in his next Accounts. *Ibid.*

At approving the Accounts of *Nicol Spence* Agent for the Church, his Introrissions with the Church's Money, preceeding first *May* current, and discharging him thereof, excepting a Ballance of 46 *l.* 16 *s.* 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* resting by him. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, to consider the Report of a Committee of the late Commission, concerning some Interlocutors of the Court of Session, in the Case of the Minister of *Auchtermuchty*, whereby 'tis apprehended the Rights and Privileges of the Judicatories and Ministers of this Church, are encroached upon. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission to judge in an Appeal about Settlement of the Parish of *Dunnotar*. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Synod of *Fife*, to do with Respect to the Parishoners of *Kinross*, who do not submit to the Ministry of Mr. *Robert Stark*, their obtaining sealing Ordinances

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Ordinances from other Ministers, what they shall find most for Edification. *Ibid.*

An Overture against rescinding of Acts which are standing Rules in this Church, read, and ordered to ly on the Table till another Diet. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, also to the Synod of *Argyle* and Presbytery of *Kintyre*, to deal with the Heritors of the Parish of *Jura* and *Colonsay*, wherein are several Islands, to consent to the Erection of a new Parish therein; and the Procurator and Agent for the Church appointed to carry on the same, and other Processes for removing the Grievances of the Minister there, on the publick Charges; and Reference to the Committee for the Royal Bounty, anent sending a Missionary Preacher to these Islands. *Ibid.*

Reference to the said Committee for the Royal Bounty, about employing Mr. *Hugh Sutherland* as itinerant Preacher in the Presbytery of *Dornoch*. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission to consider the Claim of Mr. *John Monro* Minister of *Rogart*, for Reimbursement to him of the Expence of a Process for Augmentation of his Stipend. *Ibid.*

Recommendation in Favours of *John Shaw* in the Parish of *Crathie*, a Convert from Popery, to the Ministers and Parishes in the Synods of *Fife*, *Perth*, *Aberdeen* and *Angus* for Charity. *Ibid.*

Recommendation to the Parishes in the Synods of *Argyle* and *Glasgow* and *Air*, in Favours of *Archibald M'Nab* in the Parish of *Kilmorden* for charitable Supply. *Ibid.*

Overture concerning the *Lithuanian* Bursars, brought in, and ordered to ly upon the Table. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of a Question relative to the Stipend of the Minister of *Longbride*. *May 26. Sess. ult.*

Reference to the Commission concerning the appointing a standing Committee, for deliberating on Means for preventing the Growth of Deism, Infidelity and Error, and preserving Purity of Doctrine. *Ibid.*

An Overture concerning Preaching, read, and transmitted to the several Presbyteries for their Opinion thereupon. *Ibid.*

An Overture concerning Bursaries again read and approved. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission concerning the Maintenance of the *Lithuanian* Bursars. *Ibid.*

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- An Overture anent regulating Commissions of Assembly, transmitted to the several Presbyteries. *Ibid.*
- An Overture anent Acts rescissory of standing Acts of Assembly, read, and transmitted to Presbyteries. *Ibid.*
- Reference to the Commission, with Relation to the appointing a National Fast. *Ibid.*
- Act with Relation to the more exact taking up of Lists of Probationers in this Church, again read and approved. *Ibid.*
- Reference to the Commission concerning the Case of Mr. Patrick Nicolson Minister at Kiltarlary, set forth in his Petition produced on Tuesday last. *Ibid.*
- Reference to the Commission concerning Mr. John Douglas Student in Divinity, craving a Bursar. *Ibid.*
- The Appeal of James M'Levaine Schoolmaster at Dalrymple, in a Process of Adultery against him, is referred to the Commission to be decided by them. *Ibid.*
- Recommendation to Deficients in contributing for building a new Church at Norrison, renewed. *Ibid.*
- Reference to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, to consider the Application of the Synod of Murray, concerning Mr. James Johnston, itinerant Preacher at Glenlivet. *Ibid.*
- The Petition of the Presbytery of Skye, for having the Grievances of the Minister of Egg, Muck and Cana, removed, referred to the Commission. *Ibid.*
- Remit to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, to consider the Petition of the Presbytery of Gairloch, craving Missionary Preachers and Catechists to their Bounds. *Ibid.*
- Recommendation to Deficients to contribute for reimbursing Dr. John Nicol of the Expences laid out by him, in building a new Church in New York. *Ibid.*
- The Synod Books of Lothian and Tweeddale, Merse and Teviotdale, Dumfries, Galloway, Glasgow and Air, Perth and Stirling, Fife, Ross, Orkney and Glenelg, attested in the usual Manner; and delay'd the Attestation of the Synod Book of Aberdeen, in Regard the Visitors had not communicated their Remarks thereupon to the Members of the Synod here present, according to Act 4. Assemb. 1714. Art. II.
- The Excuses offered why the Synod Books of Argyle, Angus and Mearns, Murray, Sutherland and Caithness, and Presbytery Book of Zetland, were not produc'd, were sustain'd, and the said Books ordered to be brought up, to be revised by the next General Assembly. *Ibid.*

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The Members of Assembly being enquired by the Moderator in the usual Manner, if they had any Complaints against the Conduct of the respective Synods and Presbyteries, or Members thereof, it was alledged that a Minister in the Presbytery of *Dornoch* had accepted of the Office of Sheriff-depute, and it was answered by Brethren therefrom, that he had been rebuked for the same, and given that Deputation up. *Ibid.*

Protestation admitted against Mr. *Alexander Forrest* late Probationer for the Ministry, for not insisting in his Appeal from the Judgment of the Synod of *Aberdeen*, refusing to allow him an Extract of his Licence, and the said Appeal declared void, deserted and fallen from. *Ibid.*

Protestation admitted at the Instance of the Earl of *Wigton* and other Heritors, Elders and others of the Parish of *Kirkintulloch*, against others of the said Parish, for not insisting in their Appeal from the Synod of *Glasgow* and *Air*'s Sentence, in Relation to the electing of Mr. *William Fleming* Probationer to be Minister of the said Parish, and the said Appeal declared void and deserted. *Ibid.*

Protestation admitted against *James Adam* of *Hallhill*, for not insisting in his Appeal against a Sentence of the Synod of *Glasgow* and *Air*, in a Process of Scandal against him and *Jean Stapleton* his Servitrix, and the said Appeal declared fallen from. *Ibid.*

Lists of Probationers and Students in Divinity given in, and the Probationers Names ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to revise the Minutes of this Assembly's Proceedings, and give Directions about printing such of the Acts, as are to be standing Rules or of publick Use. *Ibid.*

The Minutes of this *Sederunt* read, the Minutes of preceeding *Sederunts* having been read at the Diets subsequent to each of them. *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Speech to the Assembly, and to the King's Commissioner. *Ibid.*

The Commissioner's Speech, and Conclusion of this Assembly. *Ibid.*

F I N I S.